

High Sensitivity Semiconductor Sensor Skins for Multi-Axis Surface Pressure Characterization, Phase I

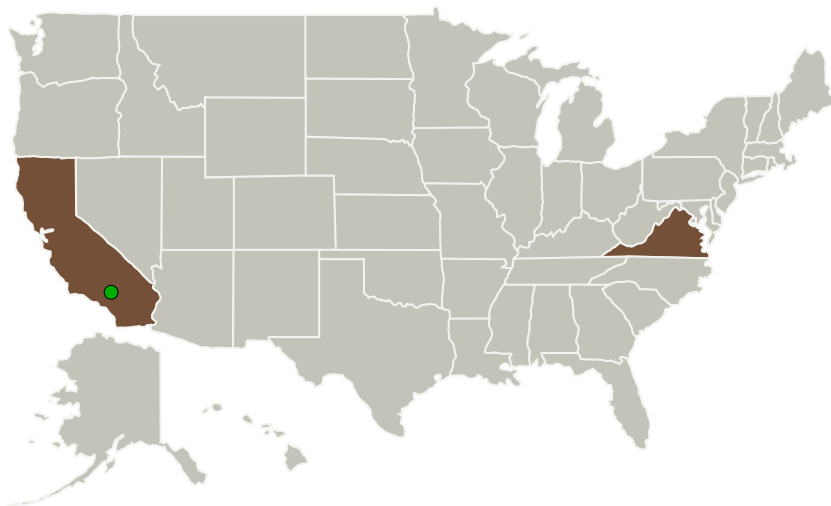
Completed Technology Project (2015 - 2015)



Project Introduction

This NASA Phase I SBIR program would fabricate high sensitivity semiconductor nanomembrane 'sensor skins' capable of multi-axis surface pressure characterization on flight test vehicles, wind tunnel models as well as operational aerospace vehicles, using SOI (Silicon on Insulator) NM techniques in combination with our pioneering HybridSil® ceramic nanocomposite materials. Such low-modulus, conformal nanomembrane sensor skins with integrated interconnect elements and electronic devices can be applied to new or existing wind tunnel models for multi-axis surface pressure analysis, or to lightweight UAVs as part of active flutter control systems. NanoSonic has demonstrated the feasibility of NM transducer materials in such sensor skins for the measurement of dynamic shear stress and normal pressure. Semiconductor NM sensor skins are thin, mechanically and chemically robust materials that may be patterned in two dimensions to create multi-sensor element arrays that can be embedded into small probe tips or conformally attached onto vehicle and model surfaces. Sensors may be connected to external support instrumentation either through thin film and ribbon cable interconnects, or potentially wirelessly using RF communication directly from electronic networks incorporated into the sensor skin material.

Primary U.S. Work Locations and Key Partners



Novel SBIR Discriminator/Claim	Implication of Discriminator for Flight Measurements	Basis of Claim Initial wind tunnel experimental results and NanoSonic/VT analysis
High Temperature Tolerance Up to 800 C with our high temperature version of pressure sensor (aSi-Si)	Be able to detect high temperature flow field	
Ultrafast Response Frequency response from DC to 1MHz	Be able to detect the high speed unsteady flow situations	
High Accuracy Demonstrated minimum detectable skin friction on the order of 0.1 Pa	Improve the quality of the surface pressure measurements	
Ultraflexibility Tailored mechanical moduli 0.1 MPa to 1 GPa	Conformal to the test model, ultrathin sensor skin, less invasive and fewer holes for installation	
Multi-Axis Characterization Both shear and normal stress can be measured	Be able to implement real-time robust adaptive flight control processes	
Ultralow areal density NM Sheet 0.1 to 1g/cm ² NM fabrics 0.0011 g/cm ²	Minimize the disturbance to the measured parameter	
Array Configuration Compatible with current CMOS fabrication technique	"Row-Column" transistor structure can be added for 2D Mapping	

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Organizations Performing Work	Role	Type	Location
Nanosonic, Inc.	Lead Organization	Industry	Pembroke, Virginia
● Armstrong Flight Research Center(AFRC)	Supporting Organization	NASA Center	Edwards, California

Primary U.S. Work Locations

California	Virginia
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Project Transitions

June 2015: Project Start

December 2015: Closed out

Closeout Summary: High Sensitivity Semiconductor Sensor Skins for Multi-Axis Surface Pressure Characterization, Phase I Project Image

Closeout Documentation:

- Final Summary Chart Image(<https://techport.nasa.gov/file/138938>)

Images

Novel SBIR Discriminator/Claim	Implication of Discriminator for Flight Measurements	Basis of Claim: Initial wind tunnel experimental results and NanoSonicVT analysis
High Temperature Tolerance Up to 800 C with our high temperature version of pressure sensor (all-Si)	Be able to detect high temperature flow field	
Ultrafast Response Frequency response from DC to 1MHz	Be able to detect the high speed unsteady flow situations	
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Briefing Chart Image

High Sensitivity Semiconductor Sensor Skins for Multi-Axis Surface Pressure Characterization, Phase I
(<https://techport.nasa.gov/image/136072>)

Organizational Responsibility

Responsible Mission Directorate:

Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)

Lead Organization:

Nanosonic, Inc.

Responsible Program:

Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Tech Transfer

Project Management

Program Director:

Jason L Kessler

Program Manager:

Carlos Torrez

Principal Investigator:

Hang Ruan

Co-Investigator:

Hang Ruan

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Technology Maturity (TRL)

Start: **3**
Current: **5**
Estimated End: **5**



Technology Areas

Primary:

- TX08 Sensors and Instruments
 - └ TX08.3 In-Situ Instruments and Sensors
 - └ TX08.3.4 Environment Sensors

Target Destinations

The Sun, Earth, The Moon, Mars, Others Inside the Solar System, Outside the Solar System